

Psalm 98v1, Revelation 5v9-10 – A Different Song (A Communion Meditation) – 07-11-1971

.. John Emlenton 9:30 6/30/68

- *Processional Hymn 384
- *Call to Worship Page 186
- *Confession of Sin
- *Assurance of Pardon
- Responsive Reading Page 592 Ex. Sel. 43
- Hymn 192
- Scripture 2 Cor. 3: Chapter 3
- *Gloria Patri
- *Apostles Creed
- *Pastoral Prayer & Response
- Anthem
- Announcements

UPPER ROOMS ARE ON TABLE

Offering & Prayer
*Hymn 347
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 461
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen
*Postlude

Salem Lamartine 11:00 6/30/68

- *Processional Hymn 281
- *Call to Worship Pg. 186
- *Confession of Sin
- *Assurance of Pardon
- Scripture 2 Cor. 3
- *Gloria Patri
- *Apostles Creed
- *Pastoral Prayer
- Anthem
- Announcements
- FLOWERS DONATION?

Offering, Response, Prayer
Hymn 437
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 438
*~~THREEFOLD AMEN~~ Benediction
*Threefold Amen
*Postlude

TRINITY CHARGE---THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Ralph C. Link, Pastor
 Christ Church, Duncannon 9:00 A.M.
 Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.
 THE ORDER OF WORSHIP July 11, 1971

The Organ Prelude
 *The Hymn of Praise 23
 *The Call to Worship and Invocation
 The Scripture---Psalm 98
 Revelation 5
 *The Gloria Patri
 *Apostles Creed Page 23
 Announcements
 The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
 *The Doxology
 *The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
 The Hymn of Meditation 335
 Meditation---"A Different Song"
 The Communion Hymn 341
 *Order of Holy Communion Page 32
 *Seraphic Hymn #522
 Institution of the Lord's Supper
 Consecration of the Elements
 The Communion (Please retain the elements
 until all have received them)
 *Prayer of Thanksgiving
 *The Hymn of Response 250
 *The Benediction
 *The Threefold Amen
 *The Postlude
 *Congregation Stands

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heidelberg Class extends an invitation to
 the ladies of the church to Paul Hopper's
 lot on the river Tuesday July 13th at 7:30.

BANKS SHEIDLEY IS IN CARLISLE
 HOSPITAL

A Different Song
(A Communion Meditation)

Text: Psalm 98:1, Rev. 5: 9, 10.

In our present age we have heard much and much has been made of singing and singing groups. Several short years ago one of the most popular television programs was one called sing along with Mitch. The audience at home was asked to sing the songs as they were played. Down through the ages mankind has been asked to sing along. The Psalmist asked the Israelites to, "Sing a new song unto the Lord." The new song was the same one, that God is good. That He is the Lord and Father of all mankind.

In the book of Revelation the four creatures and the twenty four elders, fell down before the lamb and they sang a new song to the lamb. And so men and mankind has been singing this new song to the Lord. But is it really a new song or is it just a different song?

At the Communion breakfast on Good Friday at the YMCA, Dr. Lindquist the Presbyterian minister from Hollywood California gave an illustration about a black girl who had written a book entitled, "Why the Caged Bird Sings." He told of how they catch wild canaries in Palestine and the Holy Land. How a man will have a bird in a cage and he places something on the limbs of nearby trees that when a canary flies to one of those branches its feet become stuck to the limb and so he just picks the bird off the limb and into a cage. But the bird does not need to be taught to sing, for it knows how and it does it very beautifully.

There have been many cases of caged birds singing. Daniel was one. When he was placed in the lions den the king was not too certain that he would come out alive. But when he went the next day and called out to him, Daniel answered him and sang of his God and how he had saved him. Though he was a prisoner surrounded by the terror of being killed, he sang like the caged bird.

Paul and Silas had been arrested and were secured in their prison cell by having their feet placed in stocks or leg irons. But during the night around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns and the other prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earth-

quake. Everyones chains were loosened and the doors of the jail were thrown open. The jailer awakened and seeing the doors open he was frightened and drew his sword to kill himself. But Paul shouted, "wait do not harm yourself for we are all here." And he rushed in with lights and fell down before them and said, "What must I do to be saved?" Perhaps he meant what he had to do to be saved from the authorities wrath. But Paul thinking along the lines of his spiritual needs, told him, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." ~~But the~~ And these caged birds sung.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a man imprisoned and condemned by Adolph Hitler because he defied the Nazi system. He was sentenced to be hung. But in the time he was awaiting execution, he wrote letters that he smuggled out. He counseled the other prisoners and helped them by praying for them and trying to ease the lot of each of them. But he sang this caged bird. He sang a song that has been echoed since he was hung in 1944.

The song that was sung by Daniel, by Paul and Silas and by Dietrich Bonhoeffer was not a new song, but the old song of God and his love. But basically the song of Paul. Silas and Bonhoeffer was a different song. For these caged birds sang of a love so strong, so powerful by this God, that he took his very own son and had him offered up for the sins of all mankind. Yes, even this caged bird sung., this Jesus the Son of God. He sung a different song with his life, with every fiber of his being. He sung a song of love for his enemies. A song of sacrifice, "Father take this cup from me, but nevertheless not what I will but your will be done." And he sung a song of hope, "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am there may you be also.

And so God has sung His song by giving us a life, and he meets us at his table, in this sacrament. Because he has given his son, and we can have communion with his spirit as we partake of this feast, we too can sing a song. A different song. A song taught to us of love, forgiveness for our sins, and hope for the end of this life. When we accept God's love we become singers of a different song indeed. We sing with our very lives and souls.

God is concerned about us and He does care. Otherwise he would not have given His son for us. So at the invitation of the Psalmist, let us sing a new song to the Lord, but really it will not be a new song, but a different one. The song of love as shown by God through his son. Come let us feast and go forth with a voice singing a different song. Amen.